

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016

Committee Members Present: Mike Grey, Robin Coia, Monica Dzialo, John Gregory,
Susan Rittscher, Scott Jensen,
GWB Staff Present: Heather Hudson, Dan Brown, Amelia Roberts
DLT Staff Present: Sean Fontes, Robert Kalaskowski,
Other Guest Present: Sarah Blusiewicz, Scott Greco, Brian Hull, Janet Raymond, Philip
Less, Iwona Ramian, Kathleen Grygiel, Sophie Tan, Steve Kitchin,
Nancy Olson,
Location: RI DLT, Conference room 73-2

Call to Order

Chair Grey called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Grey asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 10-4-16 Executive Committee meeting.

VOTE: John Gregory moved to approve, seconded by Martin Trueb. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Debrief Board Retreat and Review Stakeholder Feedback:

Chair Grey asked Heather Hudson, GWB Interim Executive Director to provide an update. Heather highlighted some key points:

- The vision is to implement a demand driven sector based strategy, based on Brookings industry cluster, to meet employer demand and establish a pipe line of skilled workers for future demand
- The Goal: Employers are provided the workforce they need to thrive and complete
 - Job seekers are connected to and prepared for quality employment opportunities
 - Rhode Island's economy is powered by a workforce development system that is a true asset to employers

Committee member noted we should add K-12 and Higher Ed Systems

- Heather highlighted 3 Proposed Action Steps:
 1. Continued to support growing industry and sector driven partnerships training through Real Jobs Rhode Island and Incumbent Worker Training
 2. Expand Real Jobs Rhode Island to make strategic connections with K-12 and specific adult populations
 3. Leverage employer support for work based learning experiences like summer youth employment
- Heather noted one of the key related feedback from the Board retreat was, to support innovative training models and apprenticeship that allow individuals to train and earn wages at the same time.
- Career Pathways for youth and adults.
 - Vision is to advance a career pathway strategy to provide employment, education, training and support services for individuals, particularly those with barriers to employment, that will ensure an opportunity to develop their education and skills to prepare them for a job at various points in their life.

- Goals: adults seeking increased education and jobs can easily find and connect to a continuum of training, education, work experience, and supportive services.
- Students have access to career awareness and exposure, work based learning experiences, and job specific technical skills before graduation from high school.

Local Planning Guidance and MOU Guidance:

Chair Grey noted in attendance at this meeting were the local WIB'S, Janet Raymond, Chair of Providence / Cranston Board and Steve Kitchin, Workforce Partnership of Greater RI Board. Chair Grey asked Heather Hudson, GWB Interim Executive Director to provide an update on the Local Plan Guidance, Heather highlighted some key points:

- The Goal of the local planning guidance is to facilitate alignment with state strategies as outlined in the State Plan and the Governor's Workforce Board's (GWB) Biennial plan FY18-19
- Heather noted the comments in (red) such as:
 - GWB should be providing much of the general / regional information with the LWDB providing feedback and analysis for their local area
 - Possibly focus on a demand focused analysis (what jobs are available, not filled, and why)
 - How do we market services and engage these populations
 - How much of this document is compliance, and how much autonomy do locals have in creating and implementing this plan
 - Is this something we already prepare at the GWB level that we could offer to the LWDB as a template that they could then localize without too much effort
- Steve commented on the flexibility and timeline. He would like to see the GWB Board having sufficient time to review the Local plan before submission
- Sarah Blusiewicz noted there is no fixed timeline. This is a lengthy process, the committee feels the later this is done the better it is.
- Sarah Blusiewicz proposed timeline:
 - January 2017 GWB Board Review
 - October 2017 GWB Board due for GWB Board Review
 - December 2017 GWB Final approval
- Chair Grey stated we have some real work ahead of us to do. We have heard from other Boards to make sure we are not duplicating our efforts. Chair Grey wants to make sure the plans are being reviewed.
- Committee asked if the Local plan has to go to USDOL for approval. Sarah stated yes

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Grey asked for a motion to adjourn.

VOTE: John Gregory moved to approve, seconded by Robin Coia. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown